

One of the huge dangers of media consolidation is when broadcasters mandate to their stations what they can broadcast. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. This clearly is not in the public interest. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what is good for democracy. It is more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.